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ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

TO WINSTON LORD FOR DR. KISSINGER

LITTLE PROGRESS PREPOTED IN U. S.- SOVIET ARMS TALKS

BY BERNARD GWERTZMAN - SPECIAL TO THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON, JAN 8- WELL PLACES ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS SAID
TODAY THAT THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION HAD FAILED
TO MAKE ANY SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS IN THEIR LATEST ROUND OF
TALKS ON THE LIMITATION OF STRATEGIC ARMS.

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THE OFFICIALS, IN SEPARATE INTERVIEWS, PROVIDED THE FIRST
DETAILS ABOUT THE RENEWED TALKS ON ARMS LIMITATION, WHICH TOOK
PLACE IN GENEVA FROM NOV. 21 TO DEC. 21.

THE TALKS ARE SCHEDULED TO RESUME IN GENEVA ON FEB. 27, WITH
U. ALEXIS JOHNSON, WHO HAS BEEN UNDERSECRETARY OF STATE
FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS, REPLACING GERARD C. SMITH AS THE CHIEF
AMERICAN NEGOTIATOR. MR. JOHNSON'S NOMINATION TO THE NEW JOB
WAS CONFIRMED BY THE WHITE HOUSE TODAY.

OFFENSIVE ARMS DISCUSSED

THE ROUND OF TALKS THAT ENDED IN DECEMBER MARKED THE
OPENING OF THE SECOND PHASE OF THE ARMS-LIMITATION DISCUSSIONS.
THEY WERE DEVOTED PRIMARILY TO THE QUEST FOR A COMPREHENSIVE
TREATY PUTTING LIMITS ON ALL OFFENSIVE STRATEGIC WEAPONS.

WITH A COMPREHENSIVE TREATY ON DEFENSIVE STRATEGIC WEAPONS AND A FIVE-YEAR INTERIM ACCORD PUTTING CERTAIN LIMITS ON LAND-BASED AND SUBMARINE-LAUNCHED OFFENSIVE MISSILES. THE TWO SIDES AGREED TO SEEK A MORE COMPREHENSIVE AGREEMENT ON OFFENSIVE WEAPONS IN THE SECOND PHASE.

IN THE GENEVA ROUND, ONE HIGH ADMINISTRATION OFFICIAL SAID, BOTH SIDES TOOK "EXTREME" POSITIONS, AS EXPECTED, AND THE TALKS ENDED WITHOUT NARROWING OF KNOWN DIFFERENCES.

AN OTHER OFFICIAL SAID HE DOUBTED THAT ANY BREAKTHROUGH WOULD OCCUR UNTIL PRESIDENT NIXON MET WITH LEONID I. BREZHNEV, THE SOVIET COMMUNIST PARTY LEADER, LATER THIS YEAR.

ACCORDING TO THE OFFICIALS, THE CHIEF DIFFERENCES FELL IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

THE AMERICANS MADE IT CLEAR THAT THEY WERE INTERESTED IN AN AGREEMENT THAT WOULD END THE SOVIET UNION'S NUMERICAL ADVANTAGE IN LAND-BASED AND SUBMARINE-LAUNCHED MISSILES, AND THAT WOULD ALSO INCLUDE THE STRATEGIC BOMBERS OF BOTH SIDES. THE BOMBERS WERE NOT INCLUDED IN THE FIVE-YEAR INTERIM ACCORD.

THE SOVIET UNION AGREED THAT THE TREATY ON OFFENSIVE WEAPONS SHOULD BE COMPREHENSIVE, BUT INSISTED "IN VERY STRONG TERMS," ACCORDING TO ONE ADMINISTRATION OFFICIAL, THAT THE TREATY ALSO COVER THE 700 AMERICAN TACTICAL AIRCRAFT BASED IN EUROPE AND ON CARRIERS THAT CAN TAKE NUCLEAR WEAPONS TO THE SOVIET UNION.

THE UNITED STATES, AS IT DID IN THE MOSCOW DISCUSSIONS, SAID THE TACTICAL AIRCRAFT, KNOWN IN ARMS-CONTROL TERMINOLOGY AS FORWARD-BASED SYSTEMS, SHOULD NOT BE INCLUDED IN TALKS LIMITING "OFFENSIVE STRATEGIC WEAPONS."

WARHEADS, IN WHICH THE UNITED STATES HAS A TECHNOLOGICAL LEAD, BUT THE UNITED STATES SAID SOME KIND OF OUT-SIDE INSPECTION SYSTEM MUST BE PROVIDED TO MONITOR WHAT ARE KNOWN AS MULTIPLE INDEPENDENTLY TARGETED RE-ENTRY VEHICLES, OR MIRV'S.

THE SOVIET UNION SAID THAT ANY EFFECTIVE ON-SITE INSPECTION SYSTEM WOULD REQUIRE THE PRESENCE OF FOREIGN NATIONALS ON THEIR TERRITORY AND THE RUSSIANS REPEATED THEIR OPPOSITION TO SUCH A SYSTEM WHICH THEY HAVE TRADITIONALLY REGARDED AS A POTENTIAL ESPIONAGE THREAT.

THE ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS SAID THAT THE DIFFERENCES IN APPROACH DID NOT SURPRISE THEM, AND THEY PRESUMED THAT MOSCOW WAS NOT SURPRISED EITHER. ONE OFFICIAL SAID, "WE NEED TO FEEL OUR WAY WITH THE RUSSIANS."

THE OFFICIALS SAID THAT THE MAIN STUMBLING BLOCK TO AN EFFECTIVE AGREEMENT ON OFFENSIVE WEAPONS REMAINED THE SOVIET INSISTENCE ON INCLUDING IN THE PACKAGE THE TACTICAL AIRCRAFT THAT CAN CARRY NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

THE UNITED STATES HAS ASSERTED THAT THOSE AIRCRAFT SERVE PRIMARILY TO DEFEND WESTERN EUROPE AGAINST ATTACK AND ANY REDUCTION IN THEIR NUMBERS SHOULD BE MATCHED BY A CUT IN THE SOVIET UNION'S INTERMEDIATE-RANGE MISSILES AIMED AT WESTERN EUROPE.

THE RUSSIANS, HOWEVER, HAVE SAID THAT THEY REGARDED ANY WEAPON AS "STRATEGIC" IF IT COULD DELIVER A NUCLEAR BLOW TO THE OTHER SIDE. THUS, IN THEIR VIEW, THE AMERICAN TACTICAL AIRCRAFT SHOULD BE INCLUDED BECAUSE THEY CAN HIT THE SOVIET UNION, BUT THE SOVIET INTERMEDIATE-RANGE MISSILES SHOULD NOT BECAUSE THEY CANNOT REACH THE UNITED STATES.

THE SOVIET UNION AND THE UNITED STATES HAVE AGREED NOT TO DISSEMINATE
No Objection to Declassification in Part 2010/03/02 : LOC-HAK-248-4-10-1

THE DETAILS OF THEIR NEGOTIATIONS. THE INFORMATION REPORTED HERE
WAS GATHERED INDEPENDENTLY, THROUGH A SERIES OF INTERVIEWS WITH
VARIOUS OFFICIALS, ALL OF WHOM SOUGHT ANONYMITY.

SO FAR, THE WHITE HOUSE HAS NOT GIVEN MUCH HIGH-LEVEL ATTENTION
TO THE SECOND PHASE OF THE ARMS-LIMITATION TALKS, ONE OFFICIAL
SAID. HE EXPLAINED THAT PRESIDENT NIXON AND HIS CHIEF FOREIGN
POLICY ADVISER, HENRY A. KISSINGER, WERE "PREOCCUPIED" WITH THE
VIETNAM TALKS.

MOREOVER, THE ARMS NEGOTIATORS KNEW THAT MR. SMITH WAS TO BE
REPLACED BY MR. JOHNSON. THUS, ONE OFFICIAL SAID, THERE WAS
A TENDENCY TO PUT OFF ANY MAJOR RECOMMENDATIONS UNTIL MR. JOHNSON
HAD TAKEN CHARGE.

IT HAS NOT BEEN DISCLOSED WHETHER THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE
AMERICAN DELEGATION TO THE ARMS TALKS WILL BE CHANGED, BUT ONE
OFFICIAL SAID HE DOUBTED IT.

AGREEMENT ON MECHANICS

AT THE GENEVA ROUND, THE TWO SIDES DID AGREE ON THE MECHANICS
FOR SETTING UP A STANDING COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS VIOLATIONS OF THE
ACCORDS ALREADY AGREED UPON.

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